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U. S. ARMY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL BOARD.
COMMISSION ON IMMUNIZATION

REPORT OF ORGANIZATION OF COMMISSION
ON IMMUNIZATION

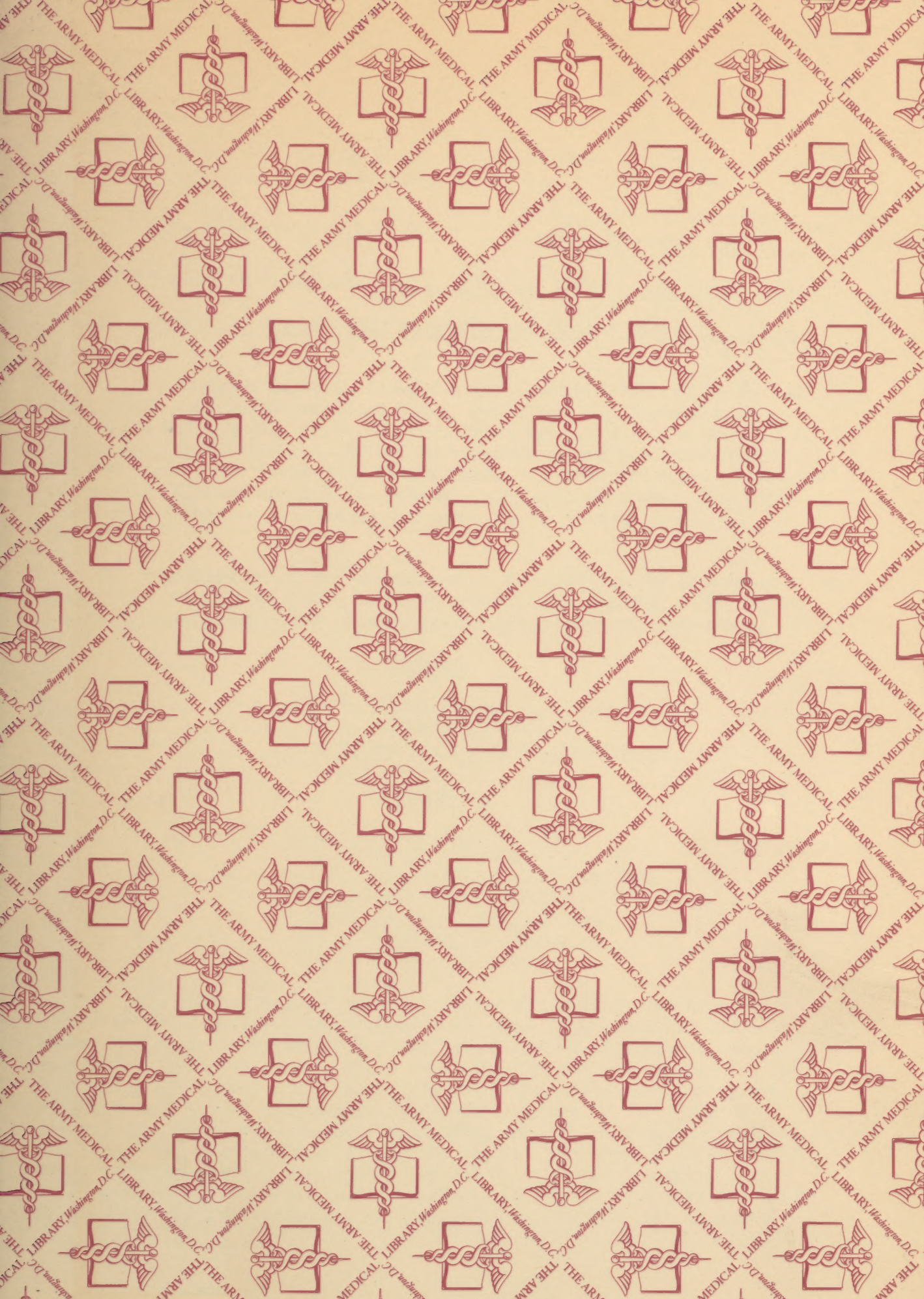
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U.S. Army Epidemiological Board. Commission on Immunization
DATE 17 April 1947

NAME OF DIRECTOR OF COMMISSION Dr. Joseph E. Smadel

SUBJECT: Report of Organization of Commission on Immunization

1. The Surgeon General, accepting the recommendation of 12 February 1947 by the Army Epidemiological Board, authorized the formation of a Commission on Immunization to function under the jurisdiction of the Board, and, named Dr. J. E. Smadel as Director of the new Commission for the current and succeeding fiscal year. The Commission was instructed to "provide for surveys and evaluation of the present status of various immunizing agents and to develop research in the various fields of immunology."

2. Organization of the Commission on Immunization has proceeded along lines similar to those followed by other Commissions of the Board. The following persons have indicated their acceptance of nomination:

Members

F. L. Horsfall, Jr., New York
R. S. Muckenfuss, New York
J. E. Smadel (Director), Washington

Associates

K. Goodner, Philadelphia
I. M. Morgan, Baltimore
A. M. Pappenheimer, Jr., New York
F. F. Schwentker, Baltimore
C. V. Seastone, Jr., Madison
H. P. Treffers, New Haven
D. W. Watson, Madison

Dr. Michael Heidelberger has stated his willingness to provide advice to the Commission but the press of other work makes him hesitant about serving as an associate. It is hoped that he will accept formal association with the group. It is realized that the present members and associates are particularly suited for providing advice and for accomplishing work in the fundamental laboratory aspects of the field of immunology. It is the concensus that these aspects should be emphasized now. However, when advances in the fundamental problems have reached the stage at which field trials appear indicated, then the personnel of the Commission should be re-aligned to include scientists with more exhaustive training in clinical medicine, epidemiology, and statistical analysis.

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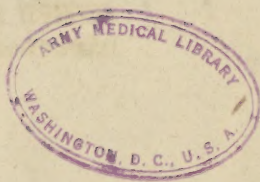
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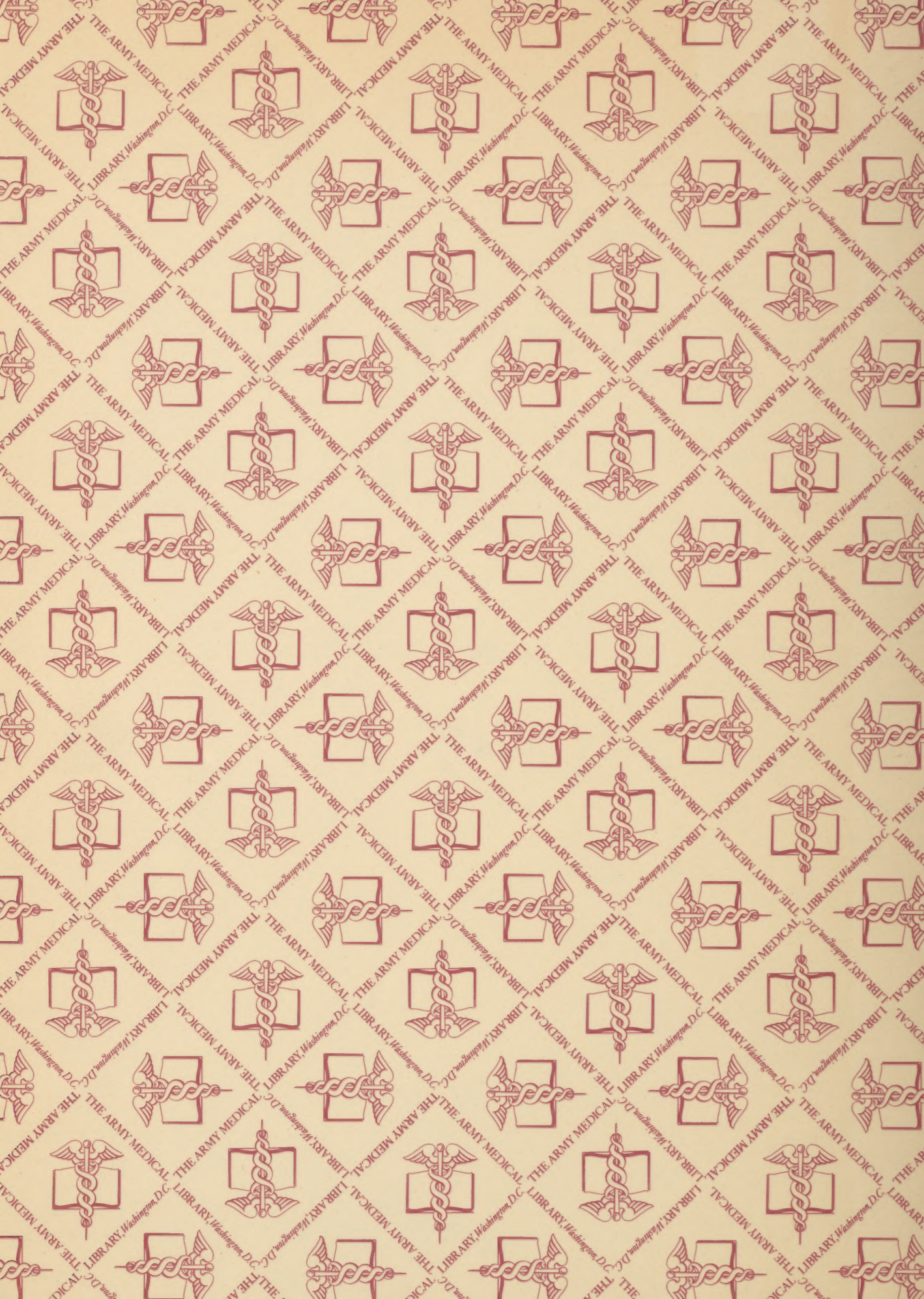
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3. The general plan of the Commission for the immediate future envisions the encouragement of work designed to obtain highly purified forms of certain of the immunogenic agents which are now available in relatively crude states. This will be done for at least two reasons: (a) the occurrence of untoward reactions from extraneous material present in the current preparations might be avoided, and (b) such purified materials would be highly suitable for combination into polyvalent vaccines, the use of which have already been explored. The search for methods of group immunization under controlled conditions which approach those resulting from the "seasoning of troops" will also be pursued. It is also planned to provide secretarial and bibliographic assistance to highly competent persons who may be willing to prepare exhaustive critical reviews of certain subjects of importance to the Commission.

4. At the moment there appears little inclination on the part of members and associates to ask for financial support. Certain ones are so situated that they cannot accept funds and some have funds from other sources which permit them to work on the problems of interest to themselves and the Commission. It is not anticipated that this unique situation will continue for long.

JOSEPH E. SMADEL, M. D.
Director





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